

EXTRA

# The Daily Colonist

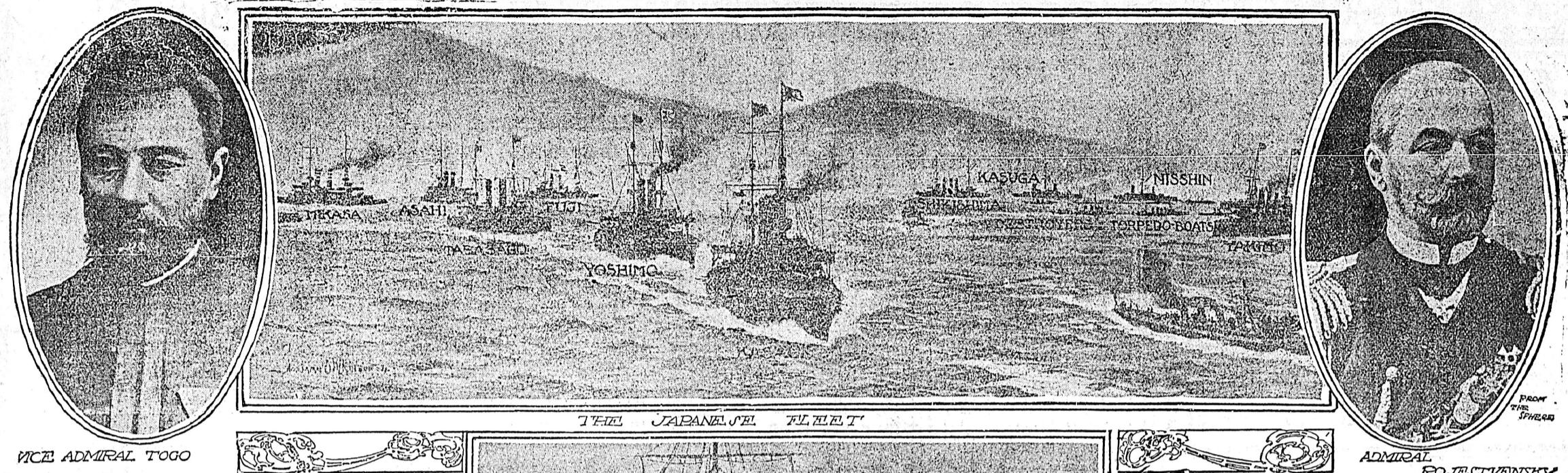
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VOL. XCIII. NO. 140

VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, MONDAY MAY, 29, 1905.

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR.



## WANTON DESTRUCTION OF STRUGGLING INDUSTRY

As Result of Recent "Freak" Legislation Western Fuel Company Decide to close Down Mines Until Hawthornthwaite and Fellow Socialists Come to Their Senses and Amend Law

Nanaimo, May 28.—As a result of the decision of the mass meeting of underground employees of the Western Fuel Company in No. 1 mine on Saturday night, it was rumored on the street that the company would have a notice on the pithead tomorrow notifying the men to take their tools out as the mine would not open after Tuesday. Upon being interviewed tonight, Mr. Stockett confirmed this report, saying that the company had made every effort to adjust the difficulty, and as the miners had refused to agree to either proposal, the company had no recourse but to close the mine, according to President Howard's statement, which he gave out last week. This means that the rails will be drawn and the pumps taken out, the fan stopped and all underground work abandoned until the eight-hour law has either been repealed or amended.

## GREAT EXCITEMENT IN SHANGHAI

All Foreign Warships in Port Clear for Action as Hearing of Battle.

## FORCING PASSAGE OF THE STRAITS

Russian Advance Hid by Fog Which Clearing Revealed Fleet to Japs.

St. Petersburg, May 29.—The St. Petersburg telegraph agency publishes the following from Shanghai, under date of May 28: "From all quarters telegrams are arriving here announcing that a naval battle is in progress between the Tsu straits and the Japanese coast. No details are given, but the tone of telegrams from Chefoo is favorable to the Russians. The telegrams say that the Vladivostok squadron participated in the engagements."

"An English firm in Shanghai has received a telegram from Tokio to the effect that the Japanese had been victorious, but nobody here believes it. There is the greatest excitement in Shanghai. All the warships in the harbor have cleared for action."

"The cable to Woosung has been interrupted since yesterday, but the cause is unknown."

"Numerous merchantmen have postponed their departure pending the receipt of further news."

## RUSSIAN FLEET DISPERSED

London, May 29.—The Tokio correspondent of the Daily Mail says that the Russian fleet has been dispersed; that several Russian ships have been disabled and that the remainder are in flight with Japs pursuing

WASHINGTON, May 28.—The American consul at Nagasaki cables the state department the Japanese have sunk one Russian battleship, four other warships and a repair ship in the straits of Korea. The following is the text of the Nagasaki despatch to the state department.

NAGASAKI, May 28.—"Japanese sank the Russian battleship Borodino and four more warships and a repair ship;" the other despatch reads:

TOKIO, May 27.—"The Japanese fleet engaged the Baltic Squadron this afternoon in the straits of Tsushima, which is held."

**S**IR. PETERSBURG, May 29, 2:15 a. m.—In this momentous hour the Emperor, the admiralty and the Russian public are awaiting breathlessly for the Japanese to furnish authentic news of the fate of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky and his fleet, in which the hopes of the Russians are centered. The official disposition is to construe Tokio's silence favorably, but at the same time the strategic reason for such silence is recognized. The public, after the premature jubilation of Saturday, is inclined to reverse its attitude and become pessimistic.

The report sent to Washington by the American consul at Nagasaki of the sinking of five Russian warships, including a battleship and repair ship, was accepted as the most definite and the most authentic piece of news received up to midnight, and undoubtedly produced a bad impression. The fear was expressed that the battleship sunk might have been Rojestvensky's flagship, the Kuzul Suvoroff, on which the Japanese would undoubtedly concentrate their fire. The sinking of the repair ship Kamtschatka, which was filled with the most modern machinery, might, it was thought, prove later to be a more severe loss than that of a warship, but at the admiralty, where crowds congregated on Sunday afternoon and evening, the opinion was expressed that it Rojestvensky had cleared the gate to the Sea of Japan with no greater loss than that reported by the American consul, the passage

Was Not Dearly Purchased,

especially if later reports should prove that the Japanese losses were anything like equal proportions.

Probably no one in Russia displayed such intense anxiety as the Emperor. Early Sunday morning he summoned Grand Duke Alexs., high admiral; Admiral Avcham, head of the Russian admiralty department; and Admiral Wrenius, chief of the general staff of the navy to Tsarskoe Selo, and remained

### Russians flee Northward

London, May 28.—The correspondent of the Morning Post at Shanghai says that a telegram has been received there from Pekin announcing that Rojestvensky's fleet has been defeated off the Tsu islands and is now fleeing northward, and that four Russian ships, including the Borodino, have been sunk.

ed closeted with them up to a late hour last night, impatiently awaiting information and pressing questions.

The only news received by His Majesty from Russian sources was contained in despatches from Russian agents, who could give nothing but rumors. The only time the Emperor left the members of his cabinet was to attend service in the chapel of the Alexandra palace, when the chaplain pray for Rojestvensky's success.

News Distressed Emperor.

The Emperor was greatly distressed when the Washington despatch containing the information sent by the consul at Nagasaki arrived. The newspaper despatches naturally created the widest speculation. Some of the officers of the admiralty who on Saturday were inclined to take the view that the ships off Woosung were empty colliers sent to the rear to avoid hampering the warships unnecessarily, or that it is a division of little fighting value despatched to confuse Togo and keep him off the scent, thought on Sunday it was possible Rojestvensky might after all have divided his fleet and that the Japanese were waiting the arrival of the Russian division before making a general announcement. A majority of

the naval authorities, however, believe

that Rojestvensky could not risk a division of his fighting ships. Those of an optimistic mind think that Rojestvensky threw Togo off the scent and escaped him, as the French did Nelson on the way to Egypt, and encountered only torpedo boats in the straits. This opinion, however, is not generally heard and the great majority think that Togo's ships were able to keep in touch and that the Japanese lay in wait for Rojestvensky in the narrow waters where a battle is reported to have taken place.

### Admiralty Not Satisfied.

Nevertheless nobody believes that Togo offered open battle, the consensus of opinion being that the Japanese, favored by a stage of the moon, which was at three-quarters full, waited and surprised a section of torpedo boats Saturday night, with such aid as their heavy ships could offer without running too much risk. Mines may have played an important part, and perhaps been responsible for a large share of the losses reported. At any rate the result is not fully satisfactory to the naval authorities.

It is possible that a running fight at long range took place Sunday, from which better results are anticipated, as the naval authorities do not think that torpedoeing could be renewed on Sunday in the open sea.

The cruisers Gromobol and Rossia, of the Vladivostok squadron, probably

## "BATTLE OF THE MOST VIOLENT CHARACTER."

French Paper Describes Contest in Korea Straits and States That Both Sides Have Suffered Serious Losses.—Tokio Still Refuses to Give Up the News.—Intense Interest in Paris

St. Petersburg, May 28.—A despatch to a news agency from Chefoo says that private advices have been received by the Japanese consul there stating that the main portion of the Russian Baltic fleet engaged the Japanese in the vicinity of Shanghai in order to induce the belief that his main fleet was there, while the major portion of it pushed on toward the Korean straits.

Several Russian colliers were at Shanghai about 10 o'clock Saturday night. Private telegrams received here from Chefoo say that as fast as the cargoes of the colliers are consumed the vessels were dismissed by Rojestvensky and returned to Europe.

Paris, May 28.—Intense interest has been aroused here by the news that a naval battle has been fought between the Russian and Japanese fleets.

Official and diplomatic quarters are without advices, most of the information reaching Paris coming through the Associated Press despatches forwarded from the United States. These despatches are prominently displayed in the evening editions of the newspapers and are eagerly commented on.

The Temps reproduces a despatch from Rome saying that the Italian minister of marine, Admiral Mirello, has received a cablegram from Chefoo giving a rumor that a battle of the most violent character has been fought, in which both combatants suffered serious losses. All the newspapers display a tone of extreme anxiety over the result.

The Temps pays a glowing tribute to Admiral Rojestvensky's skill in preparing his squadron for the final encounter and to his audacity in taking the route where the Japanese were strongest.

The Echo de Paris' St. Petersburg correspondent says that a letter has been received from Admiral Rojestvensky, written six weeks ago, in which the admiral said he desired to reach Vladivostok without a combat, if possible, but that he would do nothing to avoid an encounter.

## Two Russian Battleships Sunk by the Japanese

Washington, May 28.—A despatch was received at the American state department today saying that the Japanese government had made the announcement that its fleet had engaged the Russians in the Straits of Korea Saturday and had held them. The reported sinking of the battleships Orel and Borodino is mentioned in a despatch received at the state department today from the consul at Nagasaki.

The belief in naval circles in Washington is that the Japanese resorted to a free use of their torpedo boats in their attacks on the vessels of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet. The Japanese have a large number of torpedo boats in their fleet and they demonstrated their effectiveness in the operations around Port Arthur. Naval officials here tonight express the opinion that it was unlikely that such serious losses as those reported could have been inflicted by ordinary gun fire.

The Orel and Borodino, battleships reported sunk in the naval engagement in the Straits of Korea, were among the newest vessels of the fleet of Rojestvensky. The Borodino was four years old, being launched at Kronstadt in 1901, and the Orel was launched a year later, in 1902. The warships were alike in every particular, built after the same model. Each was heavily armored with plates almost a foot in thickness—11.6 inches to be exact. They were vessels of 13,516 tons displacement, each with a nominal speed of eighteen knots.

Sixteen large guns, besides the secondary and minor armament, were mounted on both the Orel and Borodino. Each of the battleships carried four 12-inch guns and twelve 6-inch guns. The loss of these two ships, which were of the best of the fleet, will leave the Russian admiral with but two battleships built since 1898, the flagship Kniaz Suvaroff and the Alexander III, both of which are of the same model and tonnage, and have similar armament to the Orel and Borodino.

Both of the lost battleships measured 397 feet by 76 feet, with a draught of 26 feet. They had a lofty spar deck fully 30 feet above the water line, extending from the bow to the quarter deck. The heavy guns were in pairs fore and aft. Forward was mounted a pair of 12.4-inch guns in a turret, which was protected by eleven inches of armor, and another pair of heavy guns of similar size, protected in the same manner as those forward, were mounted aft. There were 30 other guns of the intermediate battery, and each of the two vessels carried two submerged torpedo tubes and two above water. A special feature of the battleships was their vertical longitudinal bulkheads, with 11-inch armor running throughout the length of the ship at a distance of nine or ten feet from the ship's sides, designed to localize the effect of a blow from a torpedo boat.

## Summary of News Relating To the Great Naval Battle

(By Associated Press.)

According to the latest information, the battle between the Russian naval forces and the Japanese fleet for the supremacy of the Oriental seas, on which hangs the outcome of the Far Eastern struggle, has begun, if it has not terminated decisively. All the despatches received by the Associated Press point to a Japanese victory, though it is not yet known whether the full force of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's fighting ships took part in the contest, which, according to the despatches, took place in the comparatively narrow waters of the Straits of Korea.

The first information came in a despatch from the American consul at Nagasaki to the state department at Washington, telling that the Japanese had sunk one Russian battleship, four other warships and a repair ship in the Korean straits, and this was followed by a despatch received by the state department, the date of which was not given, that the Japanese government had made the announcement that its fleet had engaged the Russians in the Korean straits on Sunday and had held

them.

The state department also received information that the two vessels reported to have been sunk were the sister battleships Orel and Borodino, and three other ships were cruisers. From Tsinlingtao, the German port on the Shantung peninsula, came a report that a running naval engagement took place near the island of Oki, in the sea of Japan, two hundred miles north of the straits of Korea, and that the whole Russian fleet did not participate, the slower vessels being sent around Japan.

Russian sources give no news of the battle, while the Japanese, as is customary, give no information as to the battle or its outcome.

Paris, May 29, 4:55 a. m.—Late editions of the morning papers here express the fear that the Russians have met defeat in the naval battle. The Matin, remarking that the despatches from Washington are far from reassuring, recalls the words of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky when he entered Far Eastern waters: "If I am victorious I shall inform you; if I am vanquished, Togo will inform you."



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## LOCAL NEWS.

Ministerial Association—Tomorrow in the Y. M. C. A. auditorium, special meeting of the Ministerial Association will be held. This will be the last meeting at which Rev. J. P. Westman will officiate as president, and a full attendance of members is desired.

Phrenological Society—A meeting of the above Phrenological Society will be held tomorrow evening at the Y. M. C. A. rooms at 8 o'clock sharp. Mr. W. H. Pennoch will give a lecture on the "Reflexes or Reasoning Faculties," to be illustrated by practical delineations taken from life. All ladies and gentlemen interested are cordially invited to attend.

"King's Daughters"—The fifth annual convention of the British Columbia branch of the order of the King's Daughters will be held in the lecture room of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church on June 1, 2 and 3. The sessions are from 10 to 12 and 2 to 5 daily. In connection with the convention Mrs. G. H. Barnard of Belcher street has very kindly consented to hold a reception at her home on Wednesday evening next. No formal invitations are being issued, but all members of the order are in this informal way asked to be present and are assured of a hearty welcome.

"Lovely Hats"—In soft and stiff shapes; left from last season, reduced to half price. B. Williams & Co.

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## The Colonist.

SUNDAY, MAY 28, 1905.

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A. G. SARGISON, Managing Director.

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## THE CELEBRATION.

We publish a letter from Mr. Shakespeare, chairman of the celebration committee, taking umbrage at the editorial remarks appearing in yesterday's issue on the celebration. If perchance what was said was taken to be a reflection upon the work of the committee, we regret it. The object was to discuss the policy of the celebration which the committee was instructed in public meeting to carry out, and not in any unfriendly spirit; but rather with a view to the conduct of future celebrations based on experience this year. The success of the celebration just ended, in some details, is a matter upon which opinion will be hotly divided. The committee worked hard and in the best interests of the celebration as directed. Such service is always onerous and often thankless, and in referring to what might be regarded as "mistakes," we, perhaps, unjustly included the committee, when certain features of the policy adopted only were in view.

Similar remarks apply to the discussion of the holding of the fireworks at the Gorge, which have also been criticized. Not the slightest reflection on the fireworks as a feature of the celebration could be extracted from our comments or upon the British Columbia Electric Railway in that connection. The fireworks themselves were a success, and all their physical surroundings contributed to the enjoyment of those present. Our remarks were directed to the place of holding as a matter of the greatest public convenience in view of the class of the community for whose entertainment they are principally intended. Fireworks, in our opinion, at least, should be a feature of every celebration, paid for out of the funds for that purpose, and should be held at Beacon Hill Park or some other convenient point in the city. Fireworks are essentially for the children, and for "obvious reasons," as we stated, taking place at night, the Gorge is not the place for them. In this instance, the B. C. Electric Co., there being no fireworks in town, held them at the latter place, and for business reasons they had every justification for it. The position the Colonist takes is that as part of the policy of a public celebration the regatta should be held at the Gorge and fireworks in the city. There are ample public reasons for that position being sustained and we believe that opinion as a whole is strongly in its favor.

## THE LEWIS AND CLARK CENTENNIAL.

The opening of the Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland next month marks the 100th anniversary of the coming to the Coast overland of the intrepid explorers in commemoration of whose services the fair is being held. Their arrival at the mouth of the Columbia river marks an epoch in the history of the Pacific Coast. Perhaps no other event was so momentous in its influence upon the destinies of the British Empire in the West. In view of the fact that comparatively little is known in this country of the heroes of the great expedition, such a statement may appear surprising, but it is nevertheless true. Mrs. E. E. Dye, of Oregon City, wrote a book entitled "The Conquest," the object of which was to prove that through the efforts of Lewis and Clark and the events leading up, and subsequent, to their enterprise the peaceful conquest of a large area of western territory by the United States was brought about. Whether Lewis and Clark were responsible for such a denouement, they were at least instruments in the hands of Fate, and were among the links of circumstances that led up to it. It is possible that had not these two men lived at all the result would have been the same; but it is very improbable. The loosening of a pebble sometimes produces an avalanche that changes the course of a river. The smallest of events create turning points and crises in history. Lewis and Clark were parts of a great plan of President Jefferson in relation to the West, and it is possible that he might have found other agents who would have performed his mission with equal success. Had they failed, or had any other persons, who might have been chosen in their place, failed, there is no doubt that the hands of the nation's clock would have been turned back for a time, at least long enough, perhaps, for the British to have acquired a title to a country for a long time disputed. In that case it is hard to imagine the sequel of events.

President Jefferson may properly be regarded in the United States as the genius of the West. He had a wonderful conception of the possibilities of a vast country, which in his day was unknown west of the Mississippi. The mouth of the Columbia had been discovered when, in 1803, Jefferson acquired by purchase the Louisiana territory; but apart from that, what lay between the Mississippi and the Pacific Coast line north and south of Baker Bay was a great "terra incognita." The Spaniards had penetrated the interior from the California Coast line at various points, the isthmus had been explored, and the country west and northwest of New Orleans traversed. Who has not read of the terrible wanderings of de Soto and his band of

adventurers? Away to the north, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, the first of the white men to make the overland journey, had, in 1793, reached the Pacific Ocean at Bella Coola; but the great central West of America at the time was wholly and absolutely unknown, except to a few hunters and trappers who became in many ways practically identified with the native races among whom they lived. It is true that to Napoleon Bonaparte and not to Jefferson belongs the credit of the United States acquiring Louisiana. He was in straits for money and, fearing he could not hold the territory against the English, consummated a sale for \$15,000,000 francs, Jefferson being a rather nervous purchaser. The latter, however, was soon inspired with the possibilities of extending United States territory to the Pacific, and for this purpose planned an expedition to follow the Missouri to its source, cross the "shining mountains" described by Capt. Carver, discover the source of the Columbia river, and follow it to its embouchure in the western ocean. Jefferson, to obtain the funds for such an expedition, had to treat with an unwilling Congress; he had also international difficulties to encounter. Louisiana territory, 1,000,000 square miles in area, extended rather indefinitely at that time westerly, northwesterly and northwardly and the boundaries more or less directly affected claims made by the Spanish, British and Russian governments. Congress took very little interest in a territory wholly unknown to its members, and the "fate of nations" on the Pacific Coast was not then a live issue in politics. Jefferson finally succeeded in securing a small appropriation by resort to questionable tactics. He wrote a secret message to Congress stating the real object of the expedition to be that of making claims to the Pacific slope based on "discovery," while at the same time he lured diplomatic representatives at Washington to sleep by describing the proposed expedition as one in the interests of "science and literature," and actually succeeded in obtaining letters of credit to their various governments in case members of the expedition should land themselves in foreign territory and in need of financial assistance or protection.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

## QUADRA STREET CEMETERY.

Sir—I have to thank you for your kind insertion of my letter yesterday, which would bear to correct a statement which was posted in a central paragraph, where you used the words "the now forgotten ones" instead of my own words, "the now forgotten ones." The ordinary reader would at once know that the former words have been intended. The gravity and import of the lines of Gray's Elegy—to which our brave Wolfe alluded in the last journey to his great victory—"I would rather have written those lines than take Quebec," will live forever. Whilst—alas!—the glass of the neglected "dreaded heaps" in the old cemetery show us how very quickly the most beloved and the best known—ever in our own day—are unwept, uncarered for and forgotten. Those of our citizens who are interested in anything of the kind, I make known that the Quadra street of Victoria, should visit Quadra street and note the alterations going on there at the present time. I. W. POWELL.

## THE CELEBRATION.

Sir—One would think from the wording of your editorial of yesterday (Saturday), headed "The Celebration and a Suggestion," that you are one who was dissatisfied with the programme as arranged for the Victoria Day, and yet you blame the committee for not being more particular in their arrangements. If any one is to be blamed, why not put it where it properly belongs? The committee was the servant of the people, was appointed by the people in public meeting, and voted on by the people, and the committee authorized to carry it out. Why should the committee be blamed for carrying out the wishes of the people? True, there was not a large turnout, but the public meetings made up to the discredit of the committee of the province. The grommets and kickers had ample opportunity to speak and express their views, as there were three public meetings called. Blame, if any, belongs to those who showed such a lack of indifference and I may say, disloyalty to Victoria Day, not by coming forward to help to make it a success. The committee has nothing to be ashamed of in connection with the sports just held.

## N. SHAKESPEARE, Chairman.

A LETTER OF THANKS.

Sir—I have been requested by the executive of the Victoria Lacrosse Club to express through your widely read columns the thanks of not only myself, but of all the playing members, to the thousands of citizens who patronized the game on Wednesday last. It may be said that it is the custom of this city to attend the game on the 23rd, but we feel that knowing as every one did, that you were the patron of the game, whom we were senders, Victoria Day, we must have had a great turnout. We trust the public to trust us, and with patience. Thanking you for your courtesy in finding space for the publication of this expression of our thanks. W. W. BOLTON, President.

## THE LETHAL CHAMBER FOR DOGS.

Sir—Will you allow me to report through you to the public the result of our endeavors to date on behalf of the lethal chamber for dogs in Victoria? The list of subscriptions made through the Colonist and the Victoria Standard is as under, but the public lists will be out at the Bank of Montreal, the offices of the two daily papers, at Mr. D. Campbell's, Mr. D. Spencer's, Mr. Morris', Mr. and Mrs. B. S. and Mr. J. H. Morris' until the first of June, when the books of two or three private canvassers will be collected and the results published by Mr. Dallan, the president of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The public lists will be out at the Bank of Montreal, the offices of the two daily papers, at Mr. D. Campbell's, Mr. D. Spencer's, Mr. Morris', Mr. and Mrs. B. S. and Mr. J. H. 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